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## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

network adapter in response to variations in incoming network traffic loads. As incoming network traffic loads increase, the interrupt delay may be increased to permit an interrupt handler to "clean up" a greater number of packets with a single interrupt. Conversely, as incoming network traffic loads decrease, the interrupt delay may be decreased to expedite execution of the interrupt handler to "clean up" received packets. By monitoring incoming network traffic conditions, the duration of the interrupt delay of the network adapter can be optimized to efficiently receive incoming packets without excessive processor utilization and without poor response latency.